

Message Text

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17

ACTION EB-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 AGR-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-05

LAB-01 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SP-02 STR-01 TRSE-00 SWF-01

CIEP-01 FRB-01 OMB-01 L-02 SS-15 H-01 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 USIA-06 /063 W

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R 110620Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5898

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 14630

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION TOKYO FROM PORT AU PRINCE 31 OCT
REPEATED FOR YOUR ACTION

REF: SEOUL 7436 (TOKYO ONLY)

QUOTE

PORT AU PRINCE 2125

FOR MINISTER ANTHONY JURICH, U.S. TEXTILE TEAM, FROM AMBASSADOR
HEYWARD ISHAM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, HA

SUBJECT: U.S./HAITI BILATERAL TEXTILE AGREEMENT

1. AT THE REQUEST OF THE PRESIDENT, SERGE FOURCAND CALLED ON ME
OCTOBER 30 TO ASK IF THE USG COULD RECONSIDER THE SPECIFIC LIMITS
ON CERTAIN CATEGORIES ESTABLISHED IN THE MEMORANDUM OF SEPT. 29.
ACCORDING TO FOURCAND HAITIAN EXPORTERS HAVE THE MOST SERIOUS
PROBLEMS WITH THE LIMITS ON CATEGORY 219 (137,146 DOZEN) AND 222
(95,281 DOZEN), WITH A LESSER PROBLEM BEING EXPERIENCED WITH
CATEGORY 224 (600,936 POUNDS). FOURCAND ASKED
FIRST IF THE USG COULD, WITHIN THE OVER-ALL LIMIT OF THE
AGREEMENT, INCREASE THE SPECIFIC LIMITS FOR THESE THREE CATEGORIES.
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IF THIS SOLUTION WERE IMPOSSIBLE, FOURCAND WONDERED IF THE USG

COULD TRANSFER THESE THREE CATEGORIES FROM PARAGRAPH 3 (SPECIFIC LIMITS) TO PARAGRAPH 7 (CONSULTATION LEVELS).

2. DURING THE CONVERSATIONS FOURCAND CLEARLY INDICATED HIS UNDERSTANDING OF THE DIFFICULTIES THE USG WOULD HAVE IN MAKING ANY CHANGES TO THE AGREED-UPON MEMORANDUM. HOWEVER, THE VIRULENCE OF THE DOMESTIC INDUSTRY'S CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE AGREEMENT HAS EVIDENTLY RESULTED IN A PRESIDENTIAL ORDER THAT THE US BE APPROACHED TO SEE IF ANY POSSIBILITY FOR A CHANGE EXISTED.

3. COMMENT: I GAVE FOURCAND NO ENCOURAGEMENT WHATSOEVER THAT ANYTHING COULD BE DONE AND POINTED OUT THAT REOPENING THE AGREEMENT MIGHT WELL STIMULATE U.S. INDUSTRY PRESSURES TO CUT BACK ON TERMS ALREADY CONSIDERED TOO FAVORABLE TO HAITI. AT SAME TIME, THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT BOTH THE PRESIDENT AND FOURCAND HAVE A REAL POLITICAL PROBLEM. IF SOME SORT OF SUGARCOATING COULD BE GIVEN THE PILL, OR AN ARRANGEMENT WORKED OUT WHICH GIVES THE APPEARANCE OF A CONCESSION TO THE HAITIAN REQUEST, THESE POLITICAL PROBLEMS COULD BE EASED. IT IS PERHAPS A QUESTION MORE OF FORM THAN SUBSTANCE. I FULLY UNDERSTAND THE DIFFICULTIES, HOWEVER, AND IF FURTHER CONCESSIONS ARE IMPOSSIBLE, I WILL STRONGLY URGE THE GOH TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, USING THE TALKING POINTS ALREADY PROVIDED AS WELL AS ANY NEW INFORMATION YOU MAY SEND. SIGNED ISHAM
UNQUOTE HODGSON

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